

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
*CITY OF MILPITAS*

Minutes: Regular meeting of Recycling and Source Reduction Advisory Commission  
Meeting Date: January 24, 2006  
Meeting Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting Place: Community Center Rms. 7 & 8

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**I. ROLL** The Chair Keith Walker called to order the Milpitas Recycling and Source Reduction Advisory Commission at 7:03 p.m. Commissioners Blake, Ebner, Mercado, Yung and Downey were present. Allied staff Norm Christensen, Gil Cheso and Jeanne Mader were also in attendance. Staff present: Darryl Wong and Marilyn Nickel.

**II. MINUTES** The minutes from the meeting of October 25, 2005 were approved.

Motion to approve  
M/S: Blake/Downey

Ayes: All

The minutes from the special meeting of November 18, 2005 were approved.

Motion to approve  
M/S: Blake/Downey

Ayes: All

**III. PUBLIC INPUT**

At 7:05 p.m., Mayor Esteves thanked the commissioners for their public service to the community and asked for recommendations for more commissioners.

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Staff Nickel announced that a commission recognition event is scheduled for April 4, 2006. Gil Cheso was introduced as Allied's new General Manager.

**V. AGENDA** The agenda for this meeting was approved.

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.  
M/S: Blake/Downey

Ayes: All

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Single-Stream Program Update – Staff Wong announced that the new recycling program starts on March 13, 2006. The program will utilize new recycling carts which are scheduled for delivery during the first week of March. Customers may keep or recycle the old tubs. Commissioner Yung asked if cart sizes could be exchanged. Allied staff Mader replied that exchanges could occur after 90 days. Staff Wong distributed information that would be delivered with the carts and also a copy of the decal that will be placed on the lid. Commissioner Yung asked why the information was placed on a sticker and not molded onto the plastic. Allied staff Mader responded that the plastic has a special adhesive on the back that is an effective alternative to molded plastic. Commissioner Mercado asked if carts should be placed out of public view. Staff Wong confirmed that this would be appropriate, as this would ensure compliance with the neighborhood beautification ordinance. Commissioner

Yung asked who should be contacted at the City if carts are placed within public view. Staff Wong responded that it would be appropriate to notify Code Enforcement. Commissioner Yung noted that there are cans outside of the Buddhist temple on Abel St. Commissioner Blake reported that there are current regulations in place that will be enforced. Commissioner Ebnetter asked when Styrofoam will become an acceptable recyclable material. Allied staff Christensen reported that there isn't a market for these types of material. Allied staff Cheso added that the recycling centers that accepted these materials in the past have since closed. Commission Downey asked about plastic bags. Allied staff Mader reported that the Recyclery treats these items the same as Styrofoam. Staff Wong noted that the City and BFI identify products that are market-driven. Mayor Esteves left at 7:17pm.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Election of Officers – Staff Wong reported that at the first meeting of the year, a chair and vice-chair are selected. Chair Walker nominated Commissioner Blake as chair. Commissioner Yung seconded the nomination.

M/S: Walker/Yung

Ayes: All

Vice-chair Downey nominated Chair Walker as Vice-chair. Commissioner Mercado seconded the nomination.

M/S: Downey/Mercado

Ayes: All

2. SMaRT Station Tour Summary – Staff Nickel gave a summary of the tour to the Sunnyvale facility. Commissioner Blake asked where Milpitas' single-stream material will be sent. Allied staff Christensen reported that the Recyclery has a single-stream sorting machine. Nickel asked if there was an interest for future tours.
3. Preliminary 2004 Diversion Update – Staff Nickel reported that the city's 2004 diversion rate is 54%.
4. Neighborhood Cleanup Events – Staff Wong noted that the 2006 neighborhood cleanup event map includes the event dates and locations. There were five locations last year. However, based upon the attendance numbers, Allied and City staff realized that the overall event could be consolidated to four sites and still effectively serve participating Milpitas residents. Staff Wong noted appreciation for Keith's efforts to use school sites. Allied staff Mader reported that outreach will begin in March. She also noted that the 2006 compost giveaway is scheduled for April 1.
5. Solid Waste Audit – Staff Wong reported that the City periodically conducts audits to verify the accuracy of franchise revenues. City solicited proposals and received four responses which are currently under review. City expects auditors to begin work in March.
6. Council Odor Update – Staff Wong noted that the general trend of complaints have decreased over the past couple of years. It started at over 100 in one month. In 2004, it averaged 23 per month. In 2005, it averaged 19 per month. Conditions vary depending upon weather and other factors. The Rapid Notification e-mail system provides quick feedback to operators. The public is encouraged to call to report complaints. However, it should be understood that the nature of the operations (such as waste water treatment plants and landfills) will generate odors which cannot be eliminated. These facilities should be encouraged to continue best management practices. Commissioner Yung asked if neighboring cities can also smell odors.

Wong replied that complaints reported in other areas are not sent to the City. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the enforcement agency which collects the complaints. City's initial goal was enforcement, but improved "preventive" activities have also been implemented in the process. Commissioner Ebnetter asked about the life of the landfill. Allied staff Christensen replied 2021.

7. Universal Waste – Commissioner Yung asked if OSH accepts batteries. Commissioner Ebnetter asked if Milpitas has an annual clean event for tires, appliances, etc. Commissioner Walker replied that there are Neighborhood Clean-up events. Allied staff Mader reported that there is also a bulky item pickup service. Commissioner Blake asked why some wastes are called universal waste. City staff reported that the purpose would be to distinguish it from hazardous waste.

## **VII. STAFF ACTIVITIES**

– Nickel stated that staff set up a booth at several events. A few events were highlighted:

1. Commercial Customer Satisfaction Survey – Staff Wong reported that a third party performs the survey.
2. BayROC "Stop Junk Mail" Campaign – Commissioner Blake looked at website of junkmail and printed out the form. Allied staff Mader replied that recent newsletter included junkmail information.

Commissioner Ebnetter asked if single-stream has contamination. Allied staff Mader reported that the single-stream and mixed recycling are sorted the same way. Chair Walker announced that the commission would like to see the single-stream sorting at the Recyclery.

## **VIII. ROUNDTABLE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Chair Walker announced that April 4 is the Commission Recognition Event

## **IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None noted.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting  
M/S: Blake/Downey

Ayes: All